

Remarks

Applicant asserts that the application, as amended, is now in condition for examination and await an office action on the merits. In response to the restriction requirement, applicant has amended the claims to include a generic or linking claim, claim 71, which encompasses at least the subject matter of the claims of Groups I, II, and IV as set forth in the Office Action. Applicant reserves the right to pursue non elected subject matter. Applicant provisionally elects Group IV drawn to a vector comprising a variant of a wild type bacteriophage coat protein. Claims 71-112 read on the elected invention. Applicant reserves the right to rejoin subject matter not provisionally elected.

Restriction

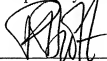
Applicant's provisional election of Group IV above is made with traverse. The present claims are drawn to host cells containing nucleic acid sequences encoding a variant of a phage coat protein and a (poly)peptide/protein, such that expression of both nucleic acid sequences results in attachment of the coat protein and the (poly)peptide/protein by formation of a disulfide bond between cysteine residues in the coat protein and the (poly)peptide/protein. The nucleic acid sequences can be contained on a single vector or can be on separate vectors. Applicant respectfully submits that searching the present claims will not impose a serious burden on the Examiner and therefore request that the claims be examined together.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for examination on the merits. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution of the application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-3840. **This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).**

Respectfully submitted,



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